6274653/2022/M-III-INC01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Mines & Minerals – Re-introduction of Slab System for collection of Seigniorage Fee on the granite blocks consumed at processing plants from the Stone Cutting and Polishing Industry on voluntary basis – Orders –Issued.

INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE (MINES-III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.58 Dated:23.08.2022

Read the following:-

1.G.O.Ms.No.82, Ind. & Com (M.I) Dept., dt:01.03.2009.
2. G.O.Ms.No.104, Ind. & Com (M.I) Dept., dt:15.05.2009.
3. G.O.Ms.No.134, Ind. & Com (M.II) Dept., dt:01.10.2012
4. G.O.Ms.No.97, Ind. & Com (M.III) Dept., dt:06.07.2016.
5. From the Government Pleader vide Letter No.Even, Legal Opinion/2020/M&G HC dt.13.03.2020.
6. From the DM&G, GoAP, single e-file bearing No. INC04-22021/1/2022-PLANNING SEC-DMG, dt.21.08.2022.

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ORDER:

In the G.O. 1st read above, Government issued orders introducing slab system for payment of Seigniorage fee per blade per month by the Stone cutting and Polishing units for a period of 2 years on experimental basis.

2. In the G.O. 2nd read above, Government issued orders amending APMMC rules accordingly. Certain WPs were filed in Hon'ble High Court against the said orders. In its interim orders Dt. 29.09.2010 in WP.MP.No.30937/2010 in WP.NO.24168 of 2010, the Hon'ble High Court of AP passed following Order;

> *"The Respondents are directed not to insist upon payment of Seigniorage Fee of Rs.14,000/- and Rs.2,500/- on slice cutter per month per blade and on block cutter from the petitioned Industry so long as one is not the lessee of any quarries."*

3. In the G.O 3rd read above, Government, in the interest of streamlining the system of Mineral Revenue Collections, decided to continue the permit and slab system to co-exist subject to final judgment of Hon'ble High Court of AP in the pending WPs. However, vide G.O. 4th read above, orders were issued to dispense with the slab system introduced earlier, to prevent the loss of Revenue to the Government exchequer.

4. In the single e-file 6th read above, the Director of Mines & Geology, AP., has stated that various requests have been received from the cutting and polishing unit holders in the State for Re-introduction of the Slab System. He has conducted three meetings with the cutting and polishing unit holders and obtained their views. Keeping in view the same, he has proposed for Re-introduction of Slab System for collection of Seigniorage Fee on the granite blocks consumed at processing plants from the Stone Cutting and Polishing Industry on voluntary basis in view of the Hon'ble High Court interim orders, duly giving different options on collection of Seigniorage Fee rates and their implications on Government exchequer with necessary details.

5. Government, after careful examination of the entire matter, hereby Re-introduce Slab System for collection of Seigniorage Fee on the granite blocks consumed at processing plants from the Stone Cutting and Polishing Industry on voluntary basis with the following rates and conditions, subject to outcome of the pending cases in the Hon'ble High Court;

(P.T.O)

S.No	Region	Type	Slab system rate per blade (Rs.)
1	Prakasam	Single Blade	27,000
		Multi Blade	54,000
2	Uttarandhra & Rayalaseema	Single Blade	22,000
		Multi Blade	44,000

i. Necessary amendments to be carried out to the Rule 10 of APMMC Rules, 1966 and AP Mineral Dealer Rules, 2017
ii. Fixing rate of Seigniorage fee to be charged per blade per month @ Rs.7,000 for unit procuring 75x35x35 cm blocks.
iii. Fixing the procurement ceiling limit of 22 cbm of raw granite block from granite quarries,
iv. Fixing the Seigniorage fee @ Rs.60/- per Sq. mtr. in case of the unit holder exceeds the ceiling limit of 22 cbm
v. Necessary counter to be filed to vacate the interim orders of Hon'ble High Court.

6. The Director of Mines & Geology, AP., shall take necessary action accordingly in the matter.

7. This order is issued with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide U.O.No.FIN01-FMU0PC(IC)/31/2022-FMU-IIEIC(C.No.1818272), Dt.23.08.2022.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNEMT (MINES)

To
The Director of Mines & Geology, A P., Ibrahimpatnam, N.T.R District.
Copy to:
The Finance Department, AP Secretariat.
The VC&MD., APMDC Ltd., Kanuru, Vijayawada.
All the District Collectors in the State through DM&G
The AGAP, AP.
The PAO, AP.
All the DTOs,. through DM&G
The Secy., to Chief Minister.
The O.S.D to Minister (Mines and Geology).
The P.S to C.S.
The P.S to Prl, Secy(Mines)
SC/SF(C.No. 1817163)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER